

goes wheels up, these people will have a death sentence, and there will be blood on this administration's hands.

CONGRATULATING TERRY HAMBY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Terry Hamby of Trigg County, Kentucky, for receiving the Distinguished Public Service Award for his outstanding leadership as chairman of the World War I Centennial Commission. Under Terry's leadership the commission completed the construction of the United States National World War I Memorial here in Washington, D.C.

There is no one who better understands the sacrifices of our servicemembers than Terry. He served for 26 years in our Nation's military, first in the Naval Air Wing during the Vietnam war before joining the U.S. Army Reserve.

After his retirement, Terry continued to honor and serve our Nation's military, and was appointed to the World War I Centennial Commission, and elected chairman in 2017. In just four years under his leadership, the United States National World War I Memorial was completed and opened to the public.

I am privileged to represent Terry in Congress, and I appreciate all he does to recognize our Nation's military. I join Terry's family, friends, and all of those impacted by his life of service in congratulating him on this enormous contribution to our Nation.

CONGRATULATING VERNON ANDERSON

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Vernon Anderson of Calloway County on his induction into the Kentucky Trapshooters League Hall of Fame.

Vernon has qualified 10 times for the Kentucky State trapshooters team and has been a member of the Kentucky Trapshooters League's board of directors for the past 12 years. He humbly describes himself as a consistently good trap shooter, but anyone who can hit 99 out of 100 moving targets at various distances is nothing less than a great shot.

Vernon has always paved the way for younger generations to participate in trap shooting. In 2015, his activism led trap shooting to become an official high school sport in Kentucky. He then became Calloway County High School's coach, where he has passed on his knowledge and passion for the sport to students.

Once again, I would like to congratulate my friend Vernon on this great honor and thank him for his continued service to the students of Calloway County, Kentucky.

ECONOMIC ISSUES AND RISING INFLATION

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss the current state of our economy.

With ill-advised lockdowns finally ending, our economy should be firing

on all cylinders. Unfortunately, we are, in many ways, stuck in the mud.

America has seen a string of disappointing jobs reports that fall short of expectations, and excessive government spending is driving up what is effectively a tax increase on every American—inflation.

Over 8 million jobs are available, even as the government pays people not to work. This is creating a dramatic workforce shortage and forcing our job creators to compete with the heavy hand of government. In fact, our labor participation rate sits at just 61 percent, the lowest total this century when you exclude the opening months of the pandemic.

And the massive spending rammed through by President Biden and Speaker PELOSI is only hurting us. Inflation is surging, affecting the price of everyday items Americans buy, like milk and gasoline.

This \$2 trillion in new spending came despite an economy that was reopening and on the mend, and it made Americans less likely to work and the government more likely to waste hard-earned tax dollars.

But for our Democrat friends, this wasteful spending knows no bounds. President Biden has proposed an outrageous \$6 trillion Federal budget that is a slap in the face to every American taxpayer.

Instead of focusing on a responsible infrastructure bill that repairs our roads and bridges and puts people to work, we see a focus by this body on ramming through the Green New Deal and more wasteful spending.

As leaders, we must change course to create a stronger recovery. As our economy reopens, we must respect taxpayers, support small businesses, and empower Americans to prosper through the dignity of work.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ERNEST ROBERTSON

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Private First Class Ernest Robertson of Russell County, Kentucky, who served and paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Korean war. Ernest was killed in action at 24 years old, but his remains have never been recovered.

After basic training at Fort Knox, Ernest was assigned to the U.S. Army's Far East Command, M Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. On April 23, 1951, he suffered a terrible injury and was captured by North Korean forces. On May 6, one day after his 24th birthday, Ernest was killed in action.

The service and sacrifice of our troops must never be forgotten, even long after they have perished. It is truly a tragedy that some brave soldiers have not yet made it home after their horrible death. We must appreciate their sacrifice and remember the cost of freedoms we enjoy here in the United States.

I join with all the First District of Kentucky in thanking Private First

Class Robertson for his service, and his family for their efforts to remember him. He will always be in our thoughts.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 21 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, our creator, redeemer, and friend, we offer to You all that we have and all that we are this day: Our cares and concerns, our annoyances and aggravations, our fears and frustrations, our tempers and our entanglements, as well as our hopes and happiness, our competence and self-confidence, our strength and our service.

We ask that You would recreate our spirits that we would have what we need to face the vagaries of life with renewed purpose and emboldened faith; that You would redeem our lives and the circumstances we face, that from our anxiety and uncertainty would emerge courage and wisdom; and that You would remind us of the joys of daily life, the blessings of home and the warmth of friendship, that through them we would find the gift of Your abiding presence upholding us in the effort of our labors and the living of our days.

In the redemption of Your name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. TENNEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.